



*Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona*

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FORMER PRISON INMATE PLEADS IN TAX REFUND SCHEME

TUCSON – The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona announced today that Daniel G. Johnson, age 28, pleaded guilty to two counts of Presentation of False Claims to the Internal Revenue Service

On November 28, 2005 Johnson plead guilty and admitted that he was a former inmate at the Marana Community Correctional Treatment Facility, Arizona Department of Corrections, when he willingly presented two false income tax returns to the IRS in which he fraudulently sought total refunds of \$ 209,815.00. In the first instance Johnson admitted that in November 2000, he presented a fraudulent 1999 U.S. Individual Income Tax Return that represented false wages and withholdings with a false claim of \$ 2,129.00. Johnson also admitted that in April 2001, he filed a 2000 U.S. Individual Income Tax return, Form 1040. This return included claims of large wages along with a false Form W-2 and gambling winnings, with a false Form W-2G, and a large purported tax withholding generating a fraudulent refund of \$ 207,686.00. Johnson admitted that he knew these claims were false.

A conviction for each Presentation of a False Claim carries a maximum penalty of five (5) years, a \$250,000.00 fine or both. In determining an actual sentence, U.S. District Judge David C. Bury will consult the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence. Sentencing is set before U.S. District Judge Bury on February 9, 2006, at 9 A.M.

The investigation preceding the indictment was conducted by Special Agents of the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation. The prosecution is being handled by Danny N. Roetzel Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson.

CASE NUMBER: CR- 03-02505-TUC-DCB (GEE)
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